

Appl. No. 10/092,662
Amdt. sent March 24, 2006
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-23. (Canceled)

1 24. (Currently amended): A storage system comprising:
2 at least one communication port configured to be coupled to a network;
3 a plurality of storage devices; and
4 a controller in data communication between the storage devices and the at least
5 one communication port,
6 wherein the at least one communication port receives from a computer connected
7 to the network a request for storing file data,
8 wherein the controller is operable to obtain the file data associated with the
9 request for storing,
10 wherein the controller is further operable to store constituent data blocks of the
11 file data among one or more of the storage devices,
12 wherein for each data block, a destination storage device is ~~determined~~ selected
13 based at least on ~~a data structure of~~ content of the data comprising the data block.

1 25. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 24, further
2 comprising a memory controller, wherein the file data comprises a first data block and a second
3 data block, wherein the memory is configured with information indicative of one or more storage
4 devices on which the first data block is to be stored and on which the second data block is to be
5 stored, wherein the controller is operable to store the first data block on a first of the one or more
6 storage devices and to store the second data block on a second of the one or more storage devices
7 according to the information.

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1 26. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 24, further
2 comprising a memory controller, wherein the memory is configured with information that
3 associates one or more storage devices with a data structure and with the port over which data is
4 received, wherein the controller identifies a destination storage device for a received data block
5 based at least on a data structure of the received data block and the port over which the received
6 data block was received.

1 27. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 24, wherein a first
2 storage device is designated to store data blocks of a first data structure, wherein the controller
3 stores a received data block having the first data structure in the first storage device.

1 28. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 24, wherein the data
2 structure is defined using XML (extended markup language) and includes a header tag indicative
3 of a start position of a file and an end position of the file, and at least one data block tag
4 indicative of one or more data blocks located between the header tag and the end tag comprising
5 the file.

1 29. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 28, wherein each
2 data block tag is associated with a storage device, wherein the controller is operative to store data
3 blocks indicated by a first data block tag onto a storage device associated with the first data
4 block tag, wherein the controller is operative to store data blocks indicated by a second data
5 block tag onto a storage device associated with the second data block tag.

1 30. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 28, wherein the
2 controller is operative to select a predetermined data block based on the data block tag.

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1 31. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 30, wherein each
2 data block tag is associated with a storage device, wherein the controller is operative to store data
3 blocks indicated by a first data block tag onto a storage device associated with the first data
4 block tag, wherein the controller is operative to store data blocks indicated by a second data
5 block tag onto a storage device associated with the second data block tag.

1 32. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 24, wherein one of
2 the data blocks comprises image data.

1 33. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 24, wherein one of
2 the data blocks comprises synchronous data to reproduce data in a synchronous manner.

 34. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 24, wherein one of
the data blocks comprises an object data of multimedia data.